

MAR 13 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POSITION COUNT CEILINGS FOR
PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH
AND A PROHIBITION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "UNAUTHORIZED
POSITIONS".

1 WHEREAS, under present practice, the General Appropriations
2 Act and Supplemental Appropriations Act authorize "ceilings", or
3 maximum counts, for permanent positions in the various executive
4 departments; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Acts do not set similar ceilings for temporary
7 positions; and

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9 WHEREAS, statutes also exempt numerous positions from
10 having to be established under the General Appropriations Act or
11 Supplemental Appropriations Act, resulting in the loss of
12 legislative discretion over the budget for such "unauthorized
13 positions"; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that responsible budget and
16 fiscal policy requires the exertion of more legislative control
17 over temporary position ceilings and unauthorized positions; and

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19 WHEREAS, increased legislative control will strengthen
20 oversight of state government appropriations, promote
21 transparency in budgeting, and enhance awareness of estimated
22 future spending needs and retiree benefit obligations; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Legislature understands that the imposition of
25 a stricter position count ceiling in the immediate future may
26 not be possible because of the inadequacies of the Department of
27 Budget and Finance's information technology system; and

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29 WHEREAS, nevertheless, the Legislature finds that the
30 Department should begin work towards implementation of a



1 stricter position count ceiling in future executive budgets;
2 now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
7 Budget and Finance is requested to propose legislation and a
8 timetable to:

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10 (1) Set position count ceilings for permanent and
11 temporary positions in the General Appropriations Act
12 or Supplemental Appropriations Act; and
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14 (2) Prohibit the establishment and funding of positions
15 that are not authorized in the General Appropriations
16 Act or Supplemental Appropriations Act, except when
17 the establishment of the positions cannot await the
18 legislative budget cycle; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Budget and
21 Finance also is requested to provide an estimate of the cost to
22 upgrade its information technology system to establish, collect,
23 maintain, and update data on permanent and temporary position
24 count ceilings in the General Appropriations Act and
25 Supplemental Appropriations Act; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days
28 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2016, the
29 Department of Budget and Finance is requested to submit a report
30 to the Legislature with the proposed legislation, timetable, and
31 estimated cost; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Finance.
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OFFERED BY: _____

